

Dear Members of the Appropriations Committee, Please approve the state employee union contracts. I was hired in my current job as a Secretary in September 2015 and have had only two wage increases since that time. We state employees made many concessions that helped balance the budget during the economic downturn and budget problems of the last decade. Now inflation is high and the wage increases and lump sums are additionally needed to try to keep pace with the cost of living. Further, state employees spend money in this state and these salaries help support state businesses and organizations. We state employees work hard and I hope you will demonstrate you value us by supporting the contracts. Thank you. Regards, Sharon Grace Wilton, CT